

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1           1. (Currently amended) A method for dropping packets based on a current  
2 bandwidth allocation of packetized communications traffic of a router in a  
3 network, said method comprising the steps of:

4           periodically querying endpoints corresponding to said router to obtain  
5 information for use in updating a connection table of said router, wherein said  
6 querying is limited to only real-time endpoint connections without querying non-  
7 real-time endpoint connections;

8           determining, in response to said querying, a current connection status, call  
9 reference value (Call\_Ref value), and bandwidth utilization information for each  
10 of said endpoints;

11           calculating, based on said current connection status, said call reference  
12 (Call\_Ref) value, and said bandwidth utilization information for each of said  
13 endpoints, a current bandwidth allocation for a specific type of communications  
14 service handled by said router; and

15           when bandwidth is not available for said specific type of communications  
16 service, (i) dropping packets of any new call received by said router for said  
17 service and (ii) informing said endpoints to disconnect said new call.

1           2. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said method is  
2 performed by said router on a per interface basis.

1           3.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further including the  
2     step of admitting additional communications traffic to said router when bandwidth  
3     for said specific type of communications service is available.

1           4.     (Canceled)

1           5.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the router  
2     receives from an endpoint the Call\_Ref value for a new connection that is not of  
3     a type that can be handled and in response thereto a message is sent to the  
4     endpoint to terminate the call.

1           6.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said  
2     querying step includes the step of sending of a H.323 Info Request (IRQ)  
3     message, and a response to said querying includes receiving an Info Request  
4     Response (IRR) message.

1           7.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said step of  
2     admitting additional communications traffic includes the step of determining a  
3     type of connection to be made as a function of an identified IP addresses, type of  
4     service, and respective socket number range.

1           8.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said querying  
2     step is periodically reset.

1           9.     (Currently amended) A method for managing traffic flowing through  
2     individual routers of a packet network, said method comprising the steps of:

3 reserving a given amount of bandwidth on interfaces of said individual  
4 routers for specific types of communications traffic;

5 identifying endpoint connections of said interfaces;

6 periodically querying said endpoint connections, wherein said querying is  
7 limited to only real-time endpoint connections without querying non-real-time  
8 endpoint connections;

9 receiving responses from said periodic querying to determine a current  
10 connection status, call reference value, and bandwidth allocation for each of said  
11 endpoints;

12 calculating, based on said current connection status, said call reference  
13 value, and said bandwidth allocation for each of said endpoint connections, a  
14 current bandwidth allocation for an interface of said routers;

15 admitting additional communications traffic over an interface for a specific  
16 type of communications service when bandwidth is available; and

17 when bandwidth is not available for said specific type of communications  
18 service, (i) dropping packets of any new call received by said routers for said  
19 service and (ii) informing said endpoints to disconnect said new call.

1 10. (Canceled)

1 11. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein each of the  
2 routers receive from an endpoint the Call\_Ref value of a new connection that is  
3 not of a type that can be handled and in response thereto a message is sent to  
4 the endpoint to terminate the call.

1           12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said message is a non-  
2 standard H.245 message.

1           13. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein said  
2 querying step includes the step of sending a H.323 IRQ message, and a  
3 response to said querying includes receiving an IRR message.

1           14. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said step  
2 of admitting additional communications traffic includes the step of determining a  
3 type of connection to be made as a function of an identified IP addresses, type of  
4 service, and socket number range.

1           15. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said network utilizes  
2 Internet Protocol.

1           16. (Currently amended) An apparatus for managing traffic flowing  
2 through individual routers of a packet network, said routers reserving a given  
3 amount of bandwidth on interfaces of said individual routers for specific types of  
4 communications traffic, said apparatus comprising:

5           means for periodically querying endpoint connections corresponding to  
6 said routers to obtain data for use in updating a connection table of said routers,  
7 wherein said querying is limited to only real-time endpoint connections without  
8 querying non-real-time endpoint connections;

9 means for receiving responses from said periodic querying to determine a  
10 current connection status, call reference value, and bandwidth for each of said  
11 endpoint connections;

12 means for calculating, based on said current connection status, said call  
13 reference value, and said bandwidth for each of said endpoint connections, a  
14 current bandwidth allocation for a specific type of communications service  
15 handled by said routers;

16 said routers admitting additional communications traffic for a specific type  
17 of communications service when said given amount of bandwidth is available;  
18 and

19 when bandwidth is not available for said specific type of communications  
20 service, said routers are operable to (i) drop packets of any new call for said  
21 service and (ii) inform said endpoint connections to disconnect said new call.

1 17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein each of  
2 the routers are operable to receive from an endpoint the Call\_Ref value of a new  
3 connection that is not of a type that can be handled and in response thereto a  
4 message is sent to the endpoint to terminate the call.

1 19. (Original) The apparatus Claim 18, wherein said message is a non-  
2 standard H.245 message.

1           20.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said  
2   querying includes sending of a H.323 IRQ message, and a response to said  
3   querying includes receiving an IRR message.

1           21.   (Previously presented) The apparatus Claim 16, wherein said  
2   apparatus is operable to determine a type of connection to be made as a function  
3   of an identified IP addresses, type of service, and socket number range.

1           22.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said network utilizes  
2   Internet Protocol.

1           23.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said  
2   querying is performed by said routers on a per interface basis.